

1 Attorney Docket 03-1-501

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3 METHOD FOR INTRODUCING MERCURY INTO A

4 FLUORESCENT LAMP DURING MANUFACTURE

5 AND A MERCURY CARRIER BODY FACILITATING SUCH METHOD

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7 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

8 Method for introducing a limited amount of mercury
9 into a fluorescent lamp during manufacture thereof includes the
10 steps of forming the lamp with an exhaust tubulation therein open
11 at an end thereof, exhausting the interior of the lamp through
12 the exhaust tubulation, placing a body of metal material not
13 reactive with mercury in the exhaust tubulation open end, the
14 body having a coating of metal which amalgams with mercury, over
15 a selected surface area of the body, and having mercury on the
16 coated area of the body, such that a limited amount of the
17 mercury is retained by the metal coating, and sealing the open
18 end of the exhaust tubulation, whereby the amount of mercury
19 retained on the body and introduced into the lamp is limited by
20 the surface area of the metal coating on the body.